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PREACH THE GOSPEL TO EVERY CREATURE.

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Before the Bishops, Clergy, and Laity, constituting the Board of Missions of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, preached in St. Bartholomew's Church, New-York, on Wednesday Evening, June 18th, 1845. By the Rev. ALEX. BURGESS, A. M.

ROMANS, ix., 3.

FOR I COULD WISH THAT MYSELF WERE ACCURSED FROM CHRIST FOR MY BRETHREN, MY KINSMEN ACCORDING TO THE FLESH.

THE language of impassioned feeling is not first weighed in a balance before it is permitted to give itself utterance. Its design is but to be a picture of the heart, and all which is in the heart has not been explored and controlled by the exact criticism of the understanding. A mourner exclaims, that he would have given his life, or a thousand lives, for the rescue of a child or a consort from death ; and we do not bid him pause and estimate the sacrifice. It is his love, not his intellect, which has spoken, and it has spoken truly ; because such was at least the feeling of the moment. So patriarchs and prophets spoke ; for Job and Jeremiah lamented and cursed the day of their birth. So Moses prayed that if the sin of the people could not be forgiven, he also might be blotted from the book of Jehovah. Even in the calmness of historical narration, St. John could suppose that, were all the things written which Jesus did, "even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written." Then, surely, when the bosom of St. Paul was almost bursting with his wish for the salvation of his fellow-men, his country-

men, his brethren, surely he might feel that all which he could lose was not too much to be for their sake gladly relinquished.

But even without such an explanation, by which so much is ascribed to the feeling of the time, perhaps a Christian mind may justify, admire and adopt the language of the fervent apostle. There is no possible sacrifice in this world which love has not at some time had strength to execute. "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends;" but "we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren." To offer soul for soul can never indeed be permitted by God or desired by holy men; because it could never be without consenting to become the servant, as well as to receive the wages, of iniquity. But so far as to be "accursed from Christ" might be to forfeit, without new guilt, all other blessings of the redemption except the sanctified heart; to be excluded here and hereafter from the fellowship of the Church; to follow him who was "made sin for us, though He knew no sin;" so far, perhaps, one soul, the soul of an apostle, the soul of a Paul, might deliberately accept the curse, for the deliverance of the souls of many.

Interpreted, however, in any manner, his wish cannot but signify the intensest affection in which man can spend and be spent for his brethren. It is the Missionary heart, in the great missionary to the Gentiles. The *Missionary heart* is our present subject. We have heard much of the *Missionary spirit*; and it is an excellent designation of a blessed thing; but it rather suggests the thought of stirring energy, of sanctified enterprize, of impulse and vigour and determination, than of the *feeling* which is first and deepest. The *Missionary spirit* is rather to be sought in such as give their active toils and intellectual strength to this conflict with principalities and powers; but the *Missionary heart* is in all Christian bosoms. The *Missionary spirit* may waft the labourer to his distant home: the *Missionary heart* must inspire and maintain him there, when he is left alone. The *Missionary spirit* will devise, arrange and commence systems of liberal contribution: the *Missionary heart*, year after year, pours in the offering, which, whether it be more or less abundant, is cheerful and unailing. The *Missionary spirit* assembles you, fathers and brethren, and breathes energy into your councils: the *Missionary heart* places you on your knees in your chambers, in effectual, fervent prayer. The *Missionary spirit* sometimes

speaks with the tongues of men and of angels, and sometimes has faith that it can remove mountains, and sometimes bestows all its goods, and sometimes gives the body to be burned: the Missionary heart is charity, without which even this could profit nothing.

It is not merely a conviction of duty, nor merely a purpose of obedience, nor merely a gratitude which answers to the redeeming love of God. It is an image of that love itself; of that love for men, for men as men, for men in their guilt, for men with their capacities for happiness; of that very love in which the Son of God came down from heaven, humbled himself to the form of a servant, went about doing good, bore our sicknesses, was wounded for our transgressions, and now sees of the travail of his soul, and is satisfied. If unbelief or despair should ask how He, in His holiness and glory, could thus regard the lost, we can but answer, that "He loved us, and gave Himself for us;" and should we be asked why we should not leave our fellow-men to their errors and their sins, we have still no other reply but this, "Let him who does not love them, leave them there."

St. Paul had the commandment of his Lord, and thus necessity was laid upon him; he had the strong love of Christ, and was thus nerved for exhausting labours. But that which threw tenderness into his zeal, and amidst overburdening anxiety and distress, yet made the care of all the Churches a happiness, was that he had them in his heart; that he gave to his fellow-men all his large and generous affections. The Christians who had been long at his side were his dear brothers; the convert had the place of a beloved child: night and day, always in every prayer of his, he thanked God for their fellowship in the Gospel; and looking abroad upon the world, and especially on the seed of Jacob in their blindness, he could even have wished to be accursed from Christ for his kinsmen.

Since what may be named the Missionary heart is best displayed in the words and life of such a man, it cannot be represented as an excessive and morbid predominance of the feelings over the judgment on the powers of action, nor as a sentiment of human philanthropy, without light, warmth, and life from above. It was enkindled by the Holy Spirit: it is guided and governed by the Gospel; and we may freely say that the religion which has not found its

way to the affections is but a tinkling cymbal, and that there is no love of God, where there is no love of the brethren. Although, too, it is true that kindness may hide itself under harsh looks and rough accents, and that piety, which cannot be without love, may be stern and severe, yet where kindness is the *prevailing* feature of the character, it will communicate itself to looks and accents; and if love have its due and ruling place in our piety, it will behold mankind with the benignant eye of an angel. Everywhere it will rejoice to dispense the large treasures which it has so freely received; and chiefly as the chief, that pearl of great price, which, while it is given, is retained, and the more it enriches those on whom we bestow it, enriches us so much the more. In different spheres and characters, this love reveals itself as plain good-will, or as generous enthusiasm, or as fervid tenderness, or as laborious diligence, or as strenuous activity, or as conscientious self-denial, or as gentle compassion, or as devoted friendship, or as expansive benevolence. Still is it one and the same: that disposition of heart which "worketh no ill to his neighbour;" which, also, since every privation of attainable good is an ill, worketh him every good; and which thus is the fulfilling of the law that rules the moral universe.

When it is directed towards the spiritual state of our fellow-men, this love is the Missionary heart. This it is, my brethren, which, not merely as existing in the character, but as its most decided, developed, conspicuous, and prevailing feature, has always accompanied all true Missionary endeavours; has never failed to prompt such endeavours; is the inspiring soul of our endeavours now; is our chief need in the prosecution of these endeavours in the time to come; and must be guarded from its perils, if those endeavours are yet to prosper. May our meditations on these things be sanctified by that Spirit, whose first fruit is love!

A peculiarly earnest and predominant love has ever accompanied true Missionary endeavours. The text is a beautiful and a sufficient example from the days of the Apostles. While miracles continued, those very miracles were almost always works of the most effectual beneficence. But even these were scarcely a mightier token to the barbarous nations among whom they were sometimes wrought, than a power from heaven was near, than the kindness which they saw and felt in every act, and word, and look of their teachers. A Christian maid, a captive of the Iberians, offers her affectionate

prayers in their need, refuses their rewards when her prayers are answered, and so wins them to the Gospel. After a long and honourable slavery in Abyssinia, Frumentius returns to his own land, but cannot rest till he has again come to those whom he has learned to love, bearing the communion and dispensing the blessing of a Christian bishop. Attracted by the same love for a people who once held him in bondage, Patrick becomes the Missionary of Ireland. Gregory the Great encounters in the market-place the fair Anglian boys, looks on them and loves them; and the result is the mission of Austin. The same love, incorporated in Bertha and Clotilda, with the intenseness of conjugal affection, opens the way to the souls of Ethelbert and Clovis, the Saxon and the Frank progenitors of Christian sovereigns. In darker ages we hear of the cheerfulness of Columba, the patient charity of Boniface, the compassion of Willibald, the royal and saintly bounty of Stephen of Hungary. It is told of Francis Xavier, that in the deepest of his devotional retirements, he ordered that he should be called at once if any child should ask for instruction; and "what," he said, "can a true and fervent charity refuse for the safety of those who have been redeemed with the blood of Jesus?" A vision of blessed peace; of a wilderness blossoming as the rose; of a people now ignorant, brutal and depraved, but one day walking in the light of the Lord; and then, another, of ten thousand times ten thousand, gathered from every nation, and standing before the throne, and before the Lamb, has ever allured the Missionary onward. Love sought to make it real; and if sometimes the fancy has suggested vast schemes and enraptured expectations, which have been compelled to give place to the barrenness of daily life and present duty in a weary land, they have been succeeded by a personal interest, a warmth of affection, which has chained the labourer to the spot. It is the earnest sincerity of Swartz, while he speaks, as he is described, "gently and pleadingly;" it is the "unbroken cheerfulness" of Ziegenbalg; it is the unfathomed benevolence of Zinzendorf and his followers; it is the sensitive sympathy of Martyn; it is the eager, yet persuasive ardour of Brainerd; it is the steady, life-long toil of Carey and Morrison; it is the gladdening benignity of Heber; but it is throughout the one feeling, of which Eliot, dying at almost ninety, said, "My understanding leaves me, my memory fails me, my utterance fails me: but my charity holds out still."

Not only has such charity always accompanied true Missionary endeavours: it has never failed to prompt such endeavors. It has not always, indeed, sent Missionaries to foreign lands; and certainly, Christians have glowed with the purest charity, who have been so ignorant as scarcely to dream of regions beyond their own mountains, or so poor as to be only able to supply themselves with bread, or so persecuted as to have no other task but patient suffering. But every act which is done, and every word which is spoken, for the propagation of truth and holiness, is stamped with the Missionary character: and when were these wanting? As there are times, too, when a stedfast faith has been the special need and glory of the Church, so there have been times when the Spirit has seemed to shed abroad within it a special warmth of love; seasons, less for the growth of the conservative than of the expansive principle; periods when the voice of contention has been less loud or less general, and brethren have lived together in comparative unity. If these have been the periods when true Missionary endeavours have been most frequently originated and most earnestly sustained, it may be a sufficient proof that such endeavors are prompted in proportion to the developement of real good will to men, which is the Missionary heart. In the history, for example, of the Reformed Church of England, we may point to three such periods. The first immediately followed the Reformation; the second embraced the primacy of Tillotson, Tenison and Wake; the third covered the close of the last century, and extended far into the present. In the first, before the Puritan separation had taken a distinct form, and while the English Church was united in close affection to the Protestant Churches of the continent, it had, indeed, no foreign Missions. But it was itself one system of Missions at home: from Jewel, at Paul's Cross, to Bernard Gilpin, on the Border, the abler and more enlightened clergy were preachers, and the abler and more enlightened preachers were often itinerant; and these supplied the lack of service of the more ignorant, till the whole land knew the pure Gospel, and every parish had its own competent pastor. Then, too, the Bible was given to the Welsh; and pious men were willing to embark on the long voyages of discovery, in the hope to bear some blessing to an almost unknown race of Pagans. In the second of these periods, after the Revolution of 1688, the peril of Popery was past, and, notwithstanding much inward dissension, the spirit of Tillotson and Stillingfleet,

of Patrick and Burnet, of Tenison and Gibson, impressed itself on the Church ; a spirit of mildness and conciliation, of practical goodness and wise philanthropy. To such a period and such men we owe the Societies for the Propagation of the Gospel and for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge ; the labours of Blair and Bray ; the example and enterprize of Berkely, and the first zeal of the founders of Methodism. The third of these periods was when the explosion of French infidelity made Christians look one another in the face, and feel that all who loved one Redeemer had now a common cause. Then, the Bible went forth on the wings of every wind ; then, men remembered and rescued the slave ; then, arose almost all those great modern associations whose names are heard and blessed on a hundred shores. These were not periods when zeal for the faith was asleep ; but they were periods when charity for the souls of men was awake ; and in reviewing all Missionary history, you will probably find that, a firm faith being first supposed, one and the same love has prompted endeavours to proclaim peace to them that were afar off, and to study peace with them that were nigh.

Such love is the inspiring soul of our own Missionary endeavours. They have been originated and supported by the piety of the Church, and their most vigorous, stedfast and generous support has ever come from those whose piety has most been characterized by the abundance of its good will to men. There is a piety which, without being destitute of the traits of the Gospel, yet reminds us of the ancient godliness under the law ; and there is a piety which, without loosening one obligation of the divine law, yet has entered more deeply into the design, and tone, and spirit of the Gospel. The law gave no command to spread the knowledge of the truth beyond the pale of Israel, but gave every command to maintain it there : the Gospel broke down every wall of partition, and bade us go forth to every creature. They who uphold the truth, who stand on the ramparts, and stand manfully, are engaged in a noble warfare ; yet there is still a more excellent way, and a work even nobler ;—to conquer by love, to bind in unity of soul, and to scatter far and wide the gifts of the heavenly kingdom. This demands the Missionary heart ; and from such a source arose our Missionary association. It draws its present life from such a principle, which is the breath of the Spirit, felt in a thousand congregations. Its faithful Missionaries have in this love their strength, and the ablest and worthiest have

chosen their path under this impulse alone. They who have entered with most singleness of purpose into these councils ; they who have come up with most constant aid ; they who, from time to time, have sustained this enterprize with expanding liberality, or with glad self-denial ; and they who, on their beds of death, have remembered it with love ; are, I believe, the very persons who would have been singled out for their affectionate and benevolent zeal in all Christian relations beside. Such are there throughout the land ; men of affluence, whose hands are open when the cause is but clear ; women, whose large possessions and large hearts are dedicated to all works of Christian love ; persons of more limited resources, whose feelings are so stirred by every Missionary discourse, that they inherit the blessing on cheerful givers ; persons yet poorer, who steadily consecrate a portion of their humble gains ; and widows with their mites, and children with their little treasures—all waiting for the summons of the fervent pastor, or for the step of the patient, diligent collector. In many thousands of households, the daily supplication that “ the light of the Gospel may shine upon all nations,” brings up the image of our labourers. In many thousands of chambers, the prayer “ that the word of God may have free course, and be glorified,” with which its progress began, attends its progress now. The Missionary heart, my brethren, is thus beating throughout the Church, wherever there is life and love.

Its natural operation is strikingly seen in blending the various preferences of individuals. It is but one love which endears to us the child at our knee or the friend at our side, and the distant sufferer whose face we never beheld. Under a common sentiment, one class of minds are more moved by the lesser need at home, because it is at home ; another by the greater need abroad, because it is greater. We are to do good “ especially unto them who are of the household of faith,” and yet we are to leave the ninety-and-nine in the fold, and go into the wilderness for the sheep that was lost. The original mould of the mind, or the influence of some providential circumstances has but turned the same affection into one or the other pathway.

This Missionary heart is our chief need in our endeavours for the time to come ; and for it you will find, as you have found, no substitute. You may establish systems of frequent contribution ; you may make the baptismal covenant your only Missionary engage-

ment—and it is well : but the frequent contributions will become the idlest forms, and the baptismal obligation to bestow will accompany the other baptismal obligations into oblivion and contempt, if the heart be not addressed, or do not answer. Will you knock at the door of the man whose whole life has no higher end than to make one million two ; will you speak to him who is *proud* of the Church, and cancels every debt to religion by the homage of a self-applauding courtesy ; will you follow those who declare by every possible sign that they are lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God, or seek the praise of men more than the praise of God, or are laying up treasure for themselves, and are not rich towards God ; and will you tell them of baptismal obligations ? Will you convert, by any plan, the charities of the Church into schemes for raising the largest amount of money with the least inconvenience ? Will you demonstrate by calculation how the smallest coin, given weekly by all alike, would yield a ten-fold supply ? Not till you are in a Church without spot or wrinkle, could any such levelling rule, were its application perfectly practicable, accomplish your desire : not till then could you prevent that charity in the act should depend on charity in the heart, on that charity which glows with different ardour in different members of the Church, and in some is absolutely wanting. Will you, then, assume the tone of indignant rebuke, appeal to their fears, their shame, or their pride, or wring from them by importunity a trifling and a heartless gift, yielded with frowns, received without respect, and certainly not recorded in any true page as given in the name of a disciple ? Treasures thus added would avail very little ; but treasures are not thus added in days of mental freedom. Tell them rather of sin, of righteousness and of judgment, till they are convinced by the Spirit of truth, and learn what the Gospel may be to their brethren by feeling what it has been to themselves. Let them see the depth of misery on the verge of which they have stood, and the height of glory to which their Saviour now commands them to ascend, with all whom they can gather to his cause ; and let their religion but once become the chief business and hope and joy of their pilgrimage. Then, tell them where and how they can aid in guiding spirits like their own to that Jerusalem which is above ; and assuredly you shall find that man, renewed after the image of God through Christ, is not the selfish being to whom you had spoken in vain. The love which be-

longed to his nature at first, and which has been slumbering under his sins while he was alienated from God, or else has spent its rich warmth on earthly ties alone, now lifts itself towards heaven, now expands itself towards man; and all his best affections, regenerated from above, are the Missionary heart.

It is but this love, or the appearance of this love, which unites such multitudes in every cause that promises relief to human misery. Sometimes deluded, erroneous, extravagant, a vast mass of actual benevolence is dispersed through the land, waiting but guidance and an impulse. Never, however, must the call of Christian Missions lower itself, to satisfy rather than remove the errors even of a true benevolence. To place a Mission on grounds of patriotism, or science, or mere philanthropy, is disingenuous and degrading. The Gospel must be either a truth or a falsehood. If it were a falsehood, it must be the most impious of impostures, and to propagate it must be wickedness. If it be a truth, it is dishonoured by every claim lower than those which suppose that every man whose aid is desired has a soul to be saved, and a heart to feel for the souls of his fellow-men. Yes, fathers and brethren; laying aside all doubtful disputation, let us come in the fulness of the Gospel, speaking the blessed and undoubted truth as it is received by conscience and common sense; let us trust in its power; and then, let us but ask of men that which their own hearts shall enjoin. The heart, once touched by the Gospel, is the fountain of all deeds of love; and it is even now, and among ourselves, a fountain far deeper and more abundant than the doubting dare, or the uncharitable wish, to believe.

Without it, how vain is all beside! Endowments might be ours, sufficient to furnish the bread of a minister, in every valley from one ocean to the other. Colleges and seminaries might be ours; education as free as air; all which wealth can bestow, all which learning can communicate. Missionaries, too, might be ours; were every station endowed forever with a large revenue, thousands of educated men would court the office; an army would soon be gathered for foreign and domestic service. But if the Missionary heart were not there, what should we have gained in that army? An army of hirelings; an army of hypocrites! They could read the prayers of the Church, perhaps with correct intonation; they could observe the rubrics; they could compose arguments for the faith; they could even perform the most sacred and sacramental func-

tions ; and it is not for us to say how far our God might still clothe with His grace even so much of His institutions. But His common instruments ; the heart that kindles other hearts ; the prayer that availeth much ; the charity that covereth a multitude of sins ; the watchfulness which has the promise that, continuing in it, we shall save ourselves and them that hear us ; all would be absent ; and, notwithstanding the temple and the priest, and the revenues by which both might be sustained, the people, the souls of men, would still wander, or be clasped in some other fold of the good Shepherd.

If we would hope that our Missionary endeavours shall hereafter be prosperous, we must guard their source and soul ; we must guard the Missionary heart of the Church, the simple, earnest good will of its members. We are bound to search with careful attention, to consider with candid seriousness, and to name with fearless directness, those evils which may peril it at its very home, and with it, too, may peril all which is most important in the sight of a Christian.

Pride is the enemy of love ; and pride seldom wears a more refined and disdainful shape than when it quietly refuses to notice the existence of our fellow-beings. Ecclesiastical pride is ever a besetting sin and danger. All Christendom embraces less than half mankind ; and our communion is but a very small portion of Christendom. It must be a mighty triumph of ecclesiastical pride, to limit all our thoughts, wishes and sympathies to so narrow a circle. Convinced of our purity of doctrine ; satisfied with our ministry ; exulting in the possession of chaste and solemn offices of worship ; rejoicing that our position preserves us from the restlessness of the fanatic ; and not regretting that the multitude of the ignorant or the superstitious should have no special claim upon ourselves ; we may be content that the Church should stand up, a fair temple, in its frozen dignity, decent and in order, while few depart and none care to enter. To such pride, all Missions to the Heathen seem romantic, all Missions at home superfluous ; and all exertions of our fellow-Christians beneath notice, except as they may attract some passing animadversion. Such indifference can be compared only with the lofty looks of him at whose gate angels ministered to Lazarus. Perhaps he felt no unkindness towards the beggar ; perhaps he intercepted not the crumbs which passed down from his table : but he and his friends moved in another sphere, and appeared not to observe the fact, that there were mendicants in society, and that these mendicants were

their kindred. So may the benevolence of a Christian Church be closed up, whenever a worldly satisfaction in its privileges and excellences has made it forget those to whom it is a debtor, the Greek or the barbarian, the wise or the unwise. We need, my brethren, a meeker and a more modest piety. Charity is crushed, if pride increase to a sufficient stature ; and pride must grow, if it be cherished by frequent thanksgivings that we are "not as other men are ;" by the habit of hearing and repeating that "the temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord, are we ;" by broad condemnation or affected ignorance of all the good that is in the world, except within our borders ; and by unbounded adulation towards any whose office may be exalted, or whose labours may be abundant. Oh, let us have the worth which acts, but speaks not ! Let us leave it to others, or to the judgment, to declare our praise ! And let our privileges be chiefly remembered, when we are measuring our duties, or lamenting our omissions ; not in the presence of one another, but before God alone !

But even without the operation of pride, the Missionary heart may be hemmed in by a settled narrowness in all its contemplations of Christian fellowship. Large was the command of our Redeemer, as large as the sufficiency of His sacrifice. Large have been the designs of His "apostles, evangelists, doctors and pastors," and "by their labour and ministry He has gathered together a great flock in all the parts of the world." Large is the region that yet remains to be subdued ; the uttermost shores that are given for His possession. Large are the destinies of our country and continent, while every year brings man nearer to man, diminishing the ocean by half, and placing within the journey of a day the opposite frontiers of great sovereignties. The Christian does not naturally close his eye to these wider prospects. But it is possible so to bind the daily train of his thoughts to the sphere of his own Church, or his own diocese, or his own parish, or his own party, that the rest of Christendom shall be to him a blank, and the state of the Heathen, present or future, an unagitated question. A narrowness like this is no very unusual spectacle ; and if, while oceans are bridged to unite the world, all bridges are hewn down, that the Church may not be united, the tendency to such narrowness must be ever more and more easy and alarming.

Almost as effectually, however, is the Missionary heart hemmed

in, or rather, crowded out, when, for good will towards the souls of men, we substitute that zeal which compasses sea and land to make a proselyte. Such zeal may be exercised in a good cause as well as in an evil. The essential character of a proselyting spirit is, that it seeks not to win men to truth and holiness, for their salvation, but to win them to our own cause, whatever it be, for its confirmation and aggrandizement. Much of this spirit is mingled with some of our best endeavours: it is so much dross mingled with the gold. It can hardly animate a whole Church to great exertion; because, if a purer love be set aside, most persons have other interests and desires which will more than counterbalance their concern for the enlargement of their own body. Still, it will withdraw from the true work of God some valuable supporters, to waste their strength in miserable feuds, persuading themselves that they are champions of something better than their own will and ambition. My brethren, we must maintain and we must propagate the Gospel, through those institutions which have been its firmest, as they were its earliest pillars; which have an apostolic origin, and therefore a divine approbation or authority. But these institutions must be upheld and extended only for the sake of the Gospel, not because they are ours; and the Gospel only for its own sake, as it is the power of God unto salvation, not as the watchword of a communion. He who cares more to persuade Christians to associate with himself than to persuade unbelievers to be Christians, has not the Missionary heart, has not the love of his brother.

That heart would be greatly endangered, should a sentiment ever prevail, which is sometimes uttered; the sentiment that we are not much to regard the results of our efforts. An apostle was willing to become all things to all men, that he might save some; and judged that such an end would justify much condescension to prejudice, and even some seeming inconsistency. He laboured with a distinct view to results; and had, I apprehend, no conception of a Christian zeal, which, if its own duty be but done, is really indifferent to the issue. Who ever loved his children or his dear friends with such apathy? Who ever established or governed a literary institution, and if the daily exercises were but duly performed, was indifferent whether the pupils were present, or whether there were pupils, or whether they acquired any improvement; contenting himself with bearing his testimony to the value of education? No: the Chris-

tian ministry are sent to preach the Gospel to men, not to bear witness to barren walls; and they who will preach with blessed effects, must wish and long and pray and look for such effects; and find in these their hope and joy and crown of rejoicing.

The Missionary heart is transformed into bitterness by the spirit of dissension. "He that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?" Or, he that loveth not his brother, of his own nation, faith and communion, how can he love his brother who dwells on the other side of the ocean or the globe, a heathen and a stranger? We may be told that, in truth, there is no want of love; that these opposite tokens are but the ripples of controversy; that the common welfare, when it is seriously exposed, binds all together; that when the grave has set its sacred seal, no difference of judgment prevents the tribute of cordial esteem or reverence. But there is sometimes a fierceness in these contests, which, over the grave, seems softened only by remorse; an aversion which the common welfare, in the utmost hazards, may seem only so far to subdue, as inclination may bend to interest; a personal hostility which has no place in honourable and manly controversy; and a habit of public violence and private scandal, of seeking and seeing all occasions of reproach, of being easily provoked, of bearing nothing, believing nothing, hoping nothing, enduring nothing; which, any where else, would in a moment be named the opposite of charity. Certainly, all which is worthiest and purest among us shrinks from the dominion of this spirit. It is condemned by the venerable piety which still remains from a former generation; it is abhorred by the generous simplicity of youth; it is dreaded by those who pray anxiously in secret: it is scorned by those who act in independent rectitude; and the heart of the Church, still uninfected, withdraws from the touch and loathes the flatteries of this demon of discord; for, it is not ignorant of his devices. Still, it is needful that, one and all, peacemakers should be resolved not to be overborne by that loud, clamorous voice which is the chief strength of uncharitableness. Controversy will continue: men of right minds will often have strong opinions; but let the Christian feeling of the Church exact courtesy, kindness in word, forbearance and gentleness, towards all who can be supposed to love the Lord Jesus Christ; and let that bitterness which delights in strewing firebrands and arrows, be met precisely as we meet any other outrage on Christian morals.

For, be assured that if we nourish strife ; strife with them that are without, and with them that are within ; strife in the synod, in the diocese, in the parish, at the Missionary station ; strife through the press, and from the pulpit, and in the common relations of brotherly intercourse ; the heart that gives life to our Missionary endeavours will be consumed ; and we shall but transplant contention, and that but for a little while, beyond the Alleghanies or beyond the Atlantic.

One more danger must be named : because if not the Missionary heart, yet Missionary efforts, must dissolve before it like water. Mournfully is the word of God hindered among us, by a wide-spread sentiment of suspicion, a vague want of confidence, which, if it should never assume a distinct shape, yet is not the less powerful. There is an apprehension that, in the whole sphere of ecclesiastical, religious and beneficent operations, things are sometimes covered which should be known, and things sometimes so disclosed that the better side only shall appear ; that either opinions are secretly held which are not avowed, or opinions startlingly avowed which are not held ; that the affectation so often displayed in trifles may possibly extend higher than trifles ; that the most sacred feelings are sometimes addressed in appeals which have not emanated from those feelings ; that the holiest motives are sometimes expressed, where an earthly motive is quite sufficient, and really acts alone ; that, in the anxiety to satisfy and animate and extol, impressions are often created which are entirely favourable only because they are partly erroneous. Every such instance, real or suspected, performs its part in working the gradual diminution of an once perfect confidence. This cannot fail without causing the very results which will in vain be then ascribed to avarice, coldness or hostility. The feelings of Christian men are earnest. If they believe that you are speaking to them plainly of that which shall subserve the salvation of their brethren, their hearts and hands will answer : if they think that you are but uttering words of form and compliment, with deeds of form and compliment, if at all, will they reply. The exaggerated narrative ; the brilliant, unsustained prediction ; promises to the spiritual labourer, never to be fulfilled ; debts contracted without ability, or repudiated without shame ; long journies for the collection of monies which are first to be applied to the expense of the journies, and sometimes hardly suffice for this ; claims from a distance for conveniences which we lack at home, made

only because the claims cost little trouble, and may be successful; fearful anticipations of bankruptcy which never arises, and, in the nature of things, never can arise; uncertain schemes of individuals, unchecked or sanctioned by the graver wisdom of authority; recommendations which receive a careless subscription, as a thing of course; documents, not expressing the convictions of those whose signatures they bear; pledges hastily given, and left unredeemed; recklessness in expenditures; the acceptance of donations for objects impossible or utterly inexpedient; the failure to restore at once contributions, the object of which has become impracticable; the concealment of embarrassments; the consumption of endowments; and all which cannot endure the eye of the world; all, for the sake of Christianity in this land, should cease; and Missionary operations should offer the leading example. Beginning here, and descending to every contract of every parish, and to every statement of every man, the Church should at least unite the directness of him whose yea is yea, and whose nay, nay; the openness of true honour; and the pecuniary accuracy of the high-minded man of business. The slightest suspicion of any thing less than the brightest sincerity, lays a cold hand on the Missionary heart, or compels it to seek new channels and instruments.

From pride, from narrowness of sympathy, from proselyting zeal, from indifference to results, from dissension and from insincerity, may the Spirit of power and of love and of a sound mind, be ever our defence! Good-will to men is the bond, my brethren, which binds us together in these endeavours: we must seek no other: we must cherish this. Humbled, afflicted, bleeding under the chastening hand of God, the Church asks from those who guide its Missions, not vast sacrifices, nor any appearance of vast sacrifices; but a serious, honest simplicity of purpose, directing all things straight towards one end, the salvation of our brethren. Around us, the wide world; the irreligious portion of our countrymen; the depressed Churches of the East; the adherents of Mohammed; the worshippers of idols; and the brethren of St. Paul, his kinsmen according to the flesh; all, consciously or unconsciously, are waiting for the Gospel. As it came from his lips and pen, dazzling, profound, wonderful, yet simple, manly, reasonable, adapted to all men in all climes, the tidings of that kingdom of God, which is not meat and drink, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Ghost, so let it be sent and

spoken. So let it be sent and spoken by those who, like him, would esteem it a great gain to part with all, at least, but heaven, if thus their brethren might but be led to the gates of glory. At the grave of such an one, fathers and brethren, you assembled to-day. The admonitions of eternity gather close around you. It is a solemn thing to take the abandoned helm in the hour of the tempest. The vessel which you are to guide has a more precious burden than that of lives. You are to point it steadily to the everlasting shores. We are to lend you, and, I am sure, this congregation and the Church will lend, a glad and an honest aid ; for, we remember how fast we, too, are approaching either the whirlpool or the haven. With religious earnestness, with impenetrable truth, and in single-hearted love for every child of man, be all our works begun, continued, and ended ! For, even though the vessel could fail ; even though it were so broken with the violence of the waves, that, like the mariners with St. Paul, we could but escape safe to land, some “ casting themselves into the sea, some on board, and some on broken pieces of the ship,” yet one thing we should still bear, except we sank ; one thing is, before all others, from heaven, and goes with us to heaven, though all others be left behind—“ CHARITY NEVER FAILETH.”



ERRATUM.—The name of the Rev. Mr. BURGESS, in the heading to the preceding Sermon, was inadvertently printed “ALEX. BURGESS.” It should read, “By the Rev. GEORGE BURGESS, A. M., Rector of Christ Church, Hartford.”

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BOARD OF MISSIONS.

TENTH ANNUAL MEETING.

New-York, June 18th, 1845.

The Annual Meeting of the "Board of Missions of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America," was held this day, in St. George's Church, at 5 o'clock P. M.

Present: The Rt. Rev. the Bishops of Delaware, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island; the Rev. Messrs. Anthon, Atkinson, Balch, Bedell, Boyd, Chapman, Cooke, Crocker, Cutler, Haight, Harris, Irving, Jarvis, Jones, McVickar, Mead, Ogilby, Robertson, Suddards, Wainwright, Woodbridge, and the Secretary; Messrs. Appleton, Cushman, Curtis, De Peyster, Gardiner, Huntington, Minturn, Morgan, Rogers, Sands, Stanford, Winston, and Woolley.

The Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Delaware, being the senior Bishop present, took the chair.

After prayer by the presiding officer, and the calling of the roll, it was, on motion of the Secretary,

Resolved, That the reading of the minutes of the last meeting be dispensed with.

On motion of the Rev. Mr. Haight, the Board proceeded, in compliance with the 3d Article of the Bye-Laws, to the appointment of a Secretary; and, on motion of the same, the Rev. Mr. Van Pelt was re-appointed.

The Secretary having requested the appointment of an Assistant Secretary, and nominated the Rev. J. Dixon Carder to that office, he was accordingly appointed.

On motion of the Secretary, it was

Resolved, That a special committee be appointed to examine, and report, whether any vacancies at present exist in this Board.

The Secretary and the Rev. Dr. McVickar were appointed the committee.

On motion of the Secretary, it was

Resolved, That at the service this evening, public notice be given of the administration of the Communion to-morrow morning, with the usual invitation thereto of all such as shall be religiously and devoutly disposed; and also that the collection at the offertory will be equally divided between the Domestic and Foreign Committees of the Board, unless any particular offering be specially designated as appropriated by the offerer to either department, or to any particular Mission in either.

On motion of the same, it was

Resolved, That when this Board adjourns, it will adjourn to attend divine service in St. Bartholomew's Church, at $\frac{1}{4}$ before 8 o'clock, this evening, on occasion of the preaching of the Annual Sermon, and to meet in the place of the present meeting, to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock, for the purpose of attending service, and afterwards, for the transaction of business.

The Secretary stated that he had received information, to be communicated to the Board, that the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of New Jersey had been unexpectedly detained from the meeting, but would be present to-morrow morning.

The Rev. Dr. Anthon stated for the information of the Board, that the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Vermont had arrived in the city, but being too much fatigued to attend the present meeting, would be present at the future sessions of the Board.

The Rev. Mr. Irving, the Secretary and General Agent of the Foreign Committee, reported that the Rev. S. H. Tyng, D. D., Rector of St. George's Church, N. Y., had been elected a member of that Committee, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of the Rev. James Milnor, D. D.; whereupon, on motion of the Rev. Mr. Cooke, it was

Resolved, That the election of the Rev. Dr. Tyng to be a member of the Foreign Committee, be approved by this Board.

The Rev. Mr. Harris, as Secretary and General Agent of the Domestic Committee, presented and read the Annual Report, (vide Appendix A,) of that body; which, on motion of the Rev. Dr. Mead, was referred to a special committee of five.

The Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Massachusetts, the Rev. Dr. Mead,

Rev. Mr. Suddards, and Messrs. Gardiner and Huntington, were appointed the committee.

The Rev. Mr. Irving, as Secretary and General Agent of the Foreign Committee, presented the Annual Report (vide Appendix B,) of that body; which, on motion of the Rev. Dr. Mead, was referred, without being read, to a special committee of five,—it being understood that it would be read to-morrow.

The Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Rhode Island, the Rev. Dr. Vinton, Rev. Mr. Atkinson, and Messrs. Sands and Appleton, were appointed the committee.

The Rev. Mr. Harris, on behalf of T. N. Stanford, Esq., Treasurer of the Domestic Committee, presented the Annual Report of that officer, duly audited, (vide Appendix C); which, on motion of the Rev. Mr. Haight, was referred to a special committee of three.

Messrs. Gardiner and Appleton, and the Rev. Dr. Crocker, were appointed the Committee.

The Rev. Mr. Irving, on behalf of Dr. J. Smyth Rogers, Treasurer of the Foreign Committee, presented the Annual Report of that officer, duly audited, (vide Appendix D); which, on motion of Mr. Huntington, was referred to a special committee of three.

Messrs. Gardiner, Sands, and Huntington, were appointed the committee.

The Rev. Mr. Irving presented and read the Annual Joint Report of the Secretaries and General Agents as Editors of the Spirit of Missions, on the condition of that periodical, (vide Appendix E); which, on motion of the Rev. Mr. Cooke, was ordered to be entered on the minutes of the Board.

The Secretary submitted the Annual Report of the Rt. Rev. the Missionary Bishop of the North-West, (vide Appendix F); which, having been read, was, on motion of the same, referred to the special committee to whom was referred the Annual Report of the Domestic Committee.

On motion, the Board adjourned.

¼ before 8 o'clock, P. M.

The Board attended divine service. The Evening Prayer was read by the Rev. Mr. Balch, Rector of St. Bartholomew's Church, New York.

The Annual Sermon was preached by the Rev. Mr. Burgess, of Christ Church, Hartford, Connecticut, from the following text :—
“ For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ, for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh.” Rom. ix., 3.

June 19th, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Board met.

Morning Prayer was read by the Rev. George Woodbridge, Rector of Christ Church, Richmond, Virginia, assisted by the Rev. S. H. Tyng, D. D., Rector of St. George's Church, New York, who read the Lessons; the Ante-Communion service by the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Delaware, assisted by the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Rhode Island, who read the Epistle; the service for the Celebration of the Lord's Supper by the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Delaware, who was assisted in the distribution of the elements by the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Rhode Island.

The religious services having been concluded, the Board proceeded to business.

The following members were present : The Rt. Rev. the Bishops of Vermont, Delaware, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island; the Rev. Messrs. Anthon, Atkinson, Balch, Bedell, Boyd, Chapman, Cooke, Crocker, Cutler, Harris, Irving, Jarvis, Jones, Mead, Ogilby, Robertson, Suddards, Tyng, Vinton, Wainwright, Whitehouse, Woodbridge, and the Secretary; and Messrs. Appleton, Cushman, Curtis, De Peyster, Gardiner, Huntington, Minturn, Morgan, Rogers, Sands, Winston, and Woolley.

The Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Vermont, the senior Bishop present, took the chair.

The roll having been called, the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Report of the Foreign Committee, in compliance with the understanding of yesterday, was recalled from the special committee to which it had been referred, and read by the Rev. Mr. Irving, Secretary and General Agent of the Foreign Committee, and then recommitted.

The Secretary submitted and read a letter from Mr. Elliot Creson, of Philadelphia, in relation to the establishment of a Theological Institution at Bexley, on the Western Coast of Africa, whereupon, on motion of the Rev. Mr. Cooke, it was

Resolved, That the communication of Mr. Cresson be referred to the Foreign Committee.

The Secretary submitted and read the following communication from the Rev. N. Sayre Harris; which, on motion of Mr. Woolley, was laid upon the table for the present.

“ *New York, June 19th, 1845.*

The undersigned, Secretary of the Domestic Committee, respectfully resigns his appointment, to take effect August 1st, or as soon thereafter as a successor is ready to take charge of the office.

N. SAYRE HARRIS.

Rev. P. Van Pelt, Secretary Board of Missions.

The Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Massachusetts, as chairman of the special committee to whom was referred the report of the Domestic Committee, presented and read the following report :

The undersigned, to whom was referred the report of the Domestic Committee, respectfully report :

That, in regard to that part of the Report referred to them which relates to the spiritual wants of those two important portions of our population, the Germans and the Jews, they cannot refrain from expressing their cordial commendation of the interest manifested by the Committee, and of the measures which they have adopted.

The Germans, from their orderly habits and moral training, offer a remarkably promising field for Missionary labor; while, at the same time, from the large numbers in which they emigrate to these western shores, and scatter themselves over all parts of the land, they present a field not less wide than it is attractive. Peopled as this country continually is, by thousands from every land of the old world, it becomes our highest policy to provide for these settlers the means of grace, and thus to take the only certain method of rendering them sober and useful citizens. Let us give them the wholesome influence of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and thereby prevent them from becoming, to their adopted home, a curse instead of a blessing.

The clergyman to whom the report refers as the Missionary to the descendants of Abraham, is personally known to several of the undersigned; and they can confidently commend him to the Board, as a person qualified for the discharge of this interesting and difficult work. As the subject of a Mission to the sons and daughters

of Israel has been for some time before our Church, and has been recommended to the zealous support of her members by two successive General Conventions, it is unnecessary for us to add our voice of approval to that which has been already so distinctly uttered. There is, however, one part of the plan of Missionary operations among this people, submitted by the Rev. Mr. Labagh to the Domestic Committee, and accompanying their Report, to which we beg leave to refer as highly judicious and wise ; namely, that of procuring the means of erecting, as soon as practicable, an Episcopal Jewish Chapel in the city of New-York. The example afforded in this respect by the London Society for the Promotion of Christianity among the Jews, should not be lost upon us on this side of the Atlantic. We regard this measure as one of great importance, for bringing to bear upon the Hebrew people the salutary influences of the ministry of the Word ; and believe that, without some suitable edifice of this kind, much of the benefit of this Mission will be unavoidably lost.

The undersigned have noticed with satisfaction that part of the report referred to them, which speaks of the salary affixed to the office of the Rt. Rev. the Missionary Bishop for the South-West. They are confident that the wise regard to economy thus manifested by the Domestic Committee will commend itself to the approbation of this Board.

We have examined with attention the statements which this Report makes in reference to the aggregate amount of contributions from the various Dioceses, as compared with that of the preceding year. While these statements show an increase in the sums thrown into the treasury, there appears to be a falling short in the case of some of the Dioceses. This diminution may be accounted for, however, without supposing a decline of interest on the part of those Dioceses in the Missionary cause. In the case of Alabama, for example, it has probably arisen from the fact, that its Bishop, having recently entered upon his extensive charge, has directed his attention principally to the relief of those pressing wants in his own portion of the vineyard, which must have forced themselves continually and painfully upon his observation. In the case of Massachusetts, which, according to the report, "has fallen so alarmingly and unexpectedly short," the undersigned have reason to know that the deficiency is susceptible of a satisfactory explanation. During the

preceding year, a legacy was paid into the hands of the Domestic Committee, amounting to a thousand dollars. There was, also, in that same year, a special and very extraordinary effort made in Boston to relieve the wants of the Domestic treasury, in consequence of an urgent appeal issuing from the Committee. And it must also be borne in mind, that the sum paid by Massachusetts into the treasury of the Foreign Committee has far exceeded that of the former year. We would also state, in further explanation, that this Diocese has been called upon, to an unprecedented extent, for aid in the important work of erecting new parish churches, and of relieving sanctuaries already built from a superincumbent weight of debt. They would take leave, on these grounds, to exculpate this branch of our household from the charge of so remarkable a dereliction of duty as would appear from the pages of the report; remarking, however, at the same time, that, were the Missionary heart beating with a more lively pulsation both there and elsewhere, the prospects of the Redeemer's cause in our fallen world would be more cheering than we find them to be.

The undersigned cannot help saying, that, notwithstanding an apparent increase in the aggregate of contributions to the Domestic funds, that increase is more apparent than real. There has been a diminution in the stream of supply through the quiet and ordinary channels of parochial contribution; the amount paid in during this year having been mainly caused by those urgent and special appeals which have been sent forth from one end of the country to the other to relieve a bankrupt treasury, and to furnish a band of missionaries with the common necessities of life. To our minds it presents itself as a grave question, whether this decay of zeal has not arisen from that change in the Missionary operations, whereby the laborers are no longer required to report their doings to the Committee by whom they are employed; and, consequently, have ceased to maintain their wonted place in the public interest and recollection. Those who are solicited for aid to the cause of Missions, must be put in full possession of what the Missionaries whom they sustain are doing, or they will not give liberally of their substance, and cannot reasonably be expected so to do. We are aware that there are many and plausible arguments on the other side of this question; but it does seem to us, that, were the reports of the ministe-

rial laborers themselves spread before the public eye, the benefits accruing therefrom would be soon and generally manifested.

In the report of the Rt. Rev. Dr. Kemper, the undersigned perceive nothing that requires their special notice. As a document communicating information in regard to the vast field of his labors, it possesses great interest for all the friends of religion.

In conclusion, we beg leave to recommend to the Board the passage of the following resolutions :—

1. Resolved, That this Board highly approve the measures of the Committee in regard to the supply of the Germans in this country with the bread of life, and commend the subject to the prayers and liberal aid of the members of our Communion.

2. Resolved, That this Board view with great pleasure the incipient efforts of the Committee in behalf of God's ancient people, and solicit the assistance of the members of our Church towards erecting, in the city of New-York, an Episcopal Jewish Chapel.

3. Resolved, That this Board confirm the vote of \$1,500 per annum, with postage and travelling expenses, as the salary of the Missionary Bishop for Arkansas and Texas.

4. Resolved, That the Board of Missions, in view of the almost boundless wants of the Domestic Missionary field, commend it afresh to the prayers and the sympathies of our whole household of faith.

All which is respectfully submitted :

MANTON EASTBURN.

WM. COOPER MEAD.

WM. SUDDARDS,

W. H. GARDINER.

S. H. HUNTINGTON.

On motion of the Bishop of Rhode Island, the first resolution contained in the report was adopted as follows :

Resolved, That the Board highly approve the measures of the Committee, in regard to the supply of the Germans in this country with the bread of life ; and commend the subject to the prayers and liberality of the members of our Communion.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Jarvis, the second resolution reported by the committee, was adopted as follows :

Resolved, That this Board view with great pleasure the incipient

efforts of the Committee in behalf of God's ancient people ; and solicit the assistance of the members of our Church towards erecting in the city of New York an Episcopal Jewish Chapel.

Mr. Gardiner moved the adoption of the third resolution reported by the Committee.

The Rev. Dr. Tyng moved to amend the resolution, by adding the words, "and that the same allowances for salary, postage and travelling expenses be hereafter made to the Missionary Bishop in the North-West."

The Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Rhode Island moved the following as a substitute for the resolution and amendment :

Resolved, That the Missionary Bishop of Arkansas and Texas be placed upon the same footing with respect to salary as the Missionary Bishop in the North-West.

On motion of the Rev. Mr. Harris, it was

Resolved, That the resolution before the Board be postponed, for the purpose of introducing a general resolution touching the salaries of Domestic Missionary Bishops.

The Rev. Mr. Harris thereupon moved the following resolution :

Resolved, That the salaries of the Domestic Missionary Bishops henceforth be \$1500, their travelling expenses and postages being paid by the Board.

The ayes and noes being called for, were as follows :

Ayes—The Rt. Rev. Bishops of Vermont and Massachusetts ; the Rev. Messrs. Atkinson, Balch, Cooke, Crocker, Cutler, Harris, Jones, Mead, Suddards, Tyng, Van Pelt, Vinton, and Woodbridge ; Messrs. Appleton, De Peyster, Gardiner, Huntington, Morgan, Rogers, Sands, Winston, and Woolley—24.

Noes—The Rt. Rev. the Bishops of Delaware and Rhode Island ; the Rev. Messrs. Anthon, Bedell, Boyd, Jarvis, Ogilby, Robertson, and Wainwright—9.

So the resolution was adopted.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Mead, the fourth resolution contained in the report was adopted, as follows :

Resolved, That the Board of Missions, in view of the almost boundless wants of the Domestic Missionary field, commend it afresh to the prayers and sympathy of our household of faith.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Tyng, it was

Resolved, That the Domestic Committee be requested to consider

the expediency of appointing Old Town, on the Penobscot river, in Maine, as a Missionary station.

The Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Massachusetts moved, that when this Board adjourns, it will adjourn to attend the Missionary meeting to be held at the Church of the Ascension, this evening, and to meet in this place at 9 o'clock to-morrow morning, for the transaction of business.

The Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Rhode Island moved to amend this resolution, as follows :

Resolved, That when the Board adjourns, it will adjourn to meet in this place this afternoon at 5 o'clock. Which was carried.

The Board adjourned.

5 o'clock, P. M.

The Board met.

Present: The Rt. Rev. the Bishops of Vermont, Delaware and Rhode Island ; Rev. Messrs. Anthon, Atkinson, Balch, Bedell, Boyd, Cutler, Haight, Harris, Irving, Jarvis, Jones, Mead, Ogilby, Robertson, Suddards, Tyng, Wainwright, Whitehouse, Woodbridge, and the Secretary ; Messrs. Curtis, De Peyster, Gardiner, Huntington, Morgan, Rogers, Sands, Winston, and Woolley.

No Bishop being present at the opening of the meeting, the Rev. Dr. Jarvis was, on motion, called to the chair.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Tyng, the calling of the roll was dispensed with.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Rev. Mr. Balch offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That in the event of the annexation of Texas to the United States during the ensuing year, the Foreign Committee be charged with the care of the Church Mission in that country until the next annual meeting of this Board.

Mr. Winston moved to amend the foregoing, by striking out the words "until the next meeting of the Board," and inserting, in lieu thereof, the words, "to the first of January next."

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Mead, it was

Resolved, That the resolution and amendment be indefinitely postponed.

Mr. Gardiner, as chairman of the committee to whom was re-

ferred the Foreign Treasurer's report, presented and read the following report :

The Committee to whom was referred the account of the Treasurer of the Foreign Committee, find that the same has been duly examined and certified to be correct, and therefore recommend that it be received, and entered on the journal of this Board.

(Signed),

R. H. GARDINER,
S. H. HUNTINGTON,
J. SANDS.

Mr. Gardiner, on behalf of the Chairman of the Committee to whom was referred the Domestic Treasurer's report, presented and read the following report :

The Committee to whom was referred the account of the Treasurer of the Domestic Committee, find that the same has been duly examined and certified to be correct, and recommend that it be received and entered on the journal of this Board.

(Signed)

WM. APPLETON,
R. H. GARDINER,
N. B. CROCKER.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the recommendation included in each of the above reports be complied with.

On motion of the Rev. Mr. Irving, it was

Resolved, That the Committee appointed to consider and report on the propriety of procuring an Act of Incorporation, be continued, and that a member be appointed thereon, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of the Rev. Dr. Milnor.

The Rev. Dr. Tyng was appointed.

On motion of Dr. Rogers, it was

Resolved, That the Committee have power to apply for an Act of Incorporation, whenever they may deem it expedient.

The Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Rhode Island, as Chairman of the Committee to whom was referred the Annual Report of the Foreign Committee, presented and read the following report :

The Committee, to whom was referred the Annual Report of the Committee of Foreign Missions, find little in that document which requires action on the part of the Board at its present session. The

drapery of woe in which the church where we are now assembled is arrayed, is in harmony with those feelings of pious but submissive sorrow which will mingle themselves with our deliberations and acts on the present occasion. We needed not, however, these outward tokens of mourning to remind us that one who was loved as a brother, and venerated as a father; one who was wise in counsel, and energetic in action; one who was prompt in the suggestion, and diligent in the execution, of measures adapted to the wide extension of the blessed Gospel of Christ—is no longer here to excite our zeal and inspirit our efforts, by his ever ready and valuable co-operation in this work of faith and labour of love. The early and steadfast friend of the cause of Missions in our Church,—who watched over its infancy, nurtured its growth, and rejoiced in its approaching maturity;—the zealous, devoted, faithful Dr. Milnor is no more an inhabitant of this world. But we are permitted to believe that, in the world where we trust he has been received,—he still participates with us in “the communion of saints;” and that this holy cause, to which he was so devoted upon earth, still enjoys the benefit of his sympathy and prayers. While we drop the tear of fraternal affection over his grave, may we be incited to be imitators of him as he was of Christ, until we also shall have finished our course and received our crown!

The history of the Board during the ten years which have elapsed since the change of its organization from that of an irresponsible instrument of voluntary subscribers into the regular organ of the entire Church, has proved the wisdom of the principles then adopted and avowed by the General Convention. The increase of interest in the work on the part of our clergy and people, and the gradual but sure extension of the work itself, have been such as to awaken our gratitude, although they may have fallen short of our desires and expectations. The results of the year past—embracing an increase of contributions to the amount of \$7000 over those of the preceding year—the enlargement of the number of Missionaries—the election and consecration of Missionary Bishops for China and Turkey, and the extension of Episcopal supervision and services to our feeble Missions in Texas—together with the determination to make our principles and practice agree in this important particular, in the future conduct of our Missionary work, afford special grounds of mutual congratulation to the friends of

Episcopal Missions, and of devout thanksgiving to Almighty God.

Your Committee, however, are of opinion, that these encouraging facts, instead of producing self-complacency, and leading to a remission of effort, under the vain hope, that the Missionary zeal of the Church has risen to its proper standard, and that she is discharging her full amount of duty to a perishing world, should serve only to call for the more vigorous energy and unreserved consecration in this best of causes. We may learn from the experience of the past, what *may be* accomplished, when the principles which have hitherto operated to a limited extent, shall be more extensively diffused, and exert their power upon the whole body of our communion. There are, however, in the midst of the grounds of congratulation, calls to regret and humiliation. Among these may be enumerated a diminution of the number of beneficiaries in the schools connected with the African Mission, owing to the failure of support, pledged, chiefly, by our Sunday Schools at home—the failure to obtain the offers of service on the part of young clergymen, to act as Missionaries in China, although three thousand dollars, for the support of three unmarried Missionaries for three years, have been pledged, and in part paid into the treasury. In conclusion, the Committee would reiterate the commendations which the Board has, in former years, pronounced upon the plan of systematic charity, and express the earnest hope, that it may, ere long, be universally adopted in all our dioceses and parishes; and above all, they would urge upon all orders and estates of men in God's holy Church, the importance of increased importunity and fervency in prayer for those gracious influences of the Holy Spirit,—without which we cannot reasonably expect any increase in the number of devoted Missionaries, or for any success upon the labors of those already in the field.

The Committee recommend, for the adoption of the Board, the following resolutions:

1. Whereas, it has pleased Almighty God, since the last meeting of this Board, to remove from the scene of his earthly labours the late Rev. JAMES MILNOR, D. D.—therefore,

Resolved, That while we bow with humble submission to the will of Divine Providence, in this affliction, we desire to record upon our minutes, our warm veneration for the character and me-

mory of our departed brother, and our devout thanks to the Giver of all good for the great benefit which has resulted to the cause of Christian Missions, from the fervent zeal, enlarged benevolence, and untiring devotion with which our departed brother, through the grace of God working in him, discharged his duties, whether as Secretary and General Agent, as a member of the Foreign Committee, or as a co-worker with us in the deliberations and acts of this Board.

2. Resolved, That the operations of this Board in the Foreign department be again earnestly recommended as deserving the continued confidence of the Church, and entitled to the liberal support of all her members, and their fervent prayers to Almighty God for his abundant blessing.

J. P. K. HENSHAW,
ALEX. H. VINTON,
THOMAS ATKINSON,
WM. APPLETON,
J. SANDS.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Tyng, the first resolution contained in the report was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Gardiner, the second resolution contained in the report was also adopted.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Tyng, it was

Resolved, That the communication from the Rev. Mr. Harris, laid on the table this morning, be taken up.

On motion of the Rev. Mr. Jones, it was

Resolved, That the resignation of the Rev. Mr. Harris, as Secretary and General Agent of the Domestic Committee, be accepted.

The Rev. Mr. Jones moved, that in future the salary of the Secretary and General Agent of the Domestic Committee be \$1500 per annum.

The Rev. Mr. Harris moved the following as a substitute :

Resolved, That the salary of the Secretary and General Agent of the Domestic Committee be \$500 per annum ; and that when an agent or agents be found necessary, they be employed by the Committee.

Resolved, That the salary of the Clerk doing the duty of Assistant to the Secretary and General Agent of the Domestic Committee,

and also of Assistant to the Treasurer of that Committee, be \$750 per annum.

Pending the consideration of the substitute, it was, on motion of Dr. Rogers,

Resolved, That when this Board adjourns, it will adjourn to attend the Missionary meeting to be held in the Church of the Ascension, this evening, and to meet in the place of the present meeting to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock, for the transaction of business.

On motion, the Board adjourned.

¼ before 8 o'clock, P. M.

The Board attended the Missionary meeting at the Church of the Ascension.

The Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Rhode Island opened the meeting with appropriate Collects from the Liturgy; after which, addresses were delivered by the Rev. Isaac P. Labagh, Rev. Francis Vinton, the Rev. A. H. Vinton, D.D., Rev. Dr. Tyng, and the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Massachusetts.

The Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Delaware closed the meeting with prayer.

June 20th, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Board met.

Present: The Right Rev. the Bishops of Vermont, Delaware, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island; the Rev. Messrs. Anthon, Atkinson, Balch, Bedell, Boyd, Haight, Harris, Irving, Jarvis, Jones, Mead, Robertson, Wainwright, Whitehouse, Woodbridge, and the Secretary; Messrs. Cushman, Curtis, De Peyster, Gardiner, Huntington, Minturn, Morgan, Rogers, Sands, Winston, Wolfe, and Woolley.

The Bishop of Delaware, being the senior Bishop present at the opening of the meeting, presided, and conducted the devotional exercises.

On motion of the Secretary, the calling of the roll was dispensed with.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

On motion of the Secretary, it was

Resolved, That another member be added to the Committee ap-

pointed to examine and report whether any vacancies at present exist in the Board.

The Rev. Mr. Boyd was appointed.

The following resolutions, submitted by Mr. Gardiner, were adopted :

Resolved, That the proceedings of this Board, attested by its Secretary, be referred to the two Committees for publication.

Resolved, That the proceedings of the Board be printed in the "Spirit of Missions," and that 250 copies be printed from the same types, as a separate pamphlet, with the usual title-page prefixed.

Resolved, That the reports of the Treasurers be printed with the proceedings of the Board.

Resolved, That the Secretaries of the two Committees be authorized to draw at their discretion on the Domestic and Foreign Funds, in equal parts, for the incidental expenses attending the present meeting of the Board.

On motion of Mr. Gardiner, it was

Resolved, That the Committee on the Missionary Library be continued.

On motion of the same, it was

Resolved, That the next Annual Meeting of this Board be held at St. George's Church, in the city of New-York, in the month of June, 1846, at 9 o'clock, A. M. of the Tuesday next preceding the commencement of the General Theological Seminary.

On motion of the same, it was

Resolved, That the time of administering the Holy Communion be changed from the second day of the meeting of the Board to the first.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Mead, it was

Resolved, That the travelling expenses of the Assistant Secretary be paid.

The Rev. Mr. Haight moved the following resolution :

Resolved, That in accepting the resignation of the Rev. N. Sayre Harris, as Secretary and General Agent of the Domestic Committee, the Board bear witness to the zeal, energy, and fidelity with which he has discharged the duties of that office for three years, and tender to him their hearty thanks for his laborious and successful exertions in behalf of the important department of Domestic Missions.

Whereupon, the Rev. Mr. Harris, Secretary of the Domestic Committee, offered the following as a substitute, which was *unanimously* adopted, viz :

Resolved, That, on general principles, it is inexpedient to pass votes of thanks to the officers of this Board for having performed their duty.

On motion of Mr. Gardiner, it was

Resolved, To take up the business under consideration at the adjournment last evening—being the substitute offered by the Rev. Mr. Harris for the Rev. Mr. Jones' resolution on the salary of the Domestic Secretary and General Agent.

The Rev. Mr. Haight called for a division of the question.

The vote being taken on the first resolution of the substitute, it was negatived.

The vote being then taken on the second resolution of the substitute, it was adopted as follows :

Resolved, That the salary of the Clerk doing the duty of Assistant to the Domestic Secretary and General Agent, and also of Assistant to the Domestic Treasurer, be \$750 per annum.

The question of the salary of the Domestic Secretary and General Agent then recurring on the resolution of the Rev. Mr. Jones, the Rev. Mr. Balch moved to amend the resolution, by striking out \$1500, and inserting \$2,000.

On motion of the Rev. Mr. Balch, the subject of the salary of the Domestic Secretary was laid upon the table.

The Rev. Mr. Balch moved the following resolution :

Resolved, That hereafter the Missionaries of the Board transmit to the Central office duplicates of their correspondence with the Bishops, for the purpose of securing more information of a Missionary character.

On motion of Dr. Rogers, this resolution was laid upon the table.

On motion of Mr. Minturn, it was

Resolved, That the first resolution of Mr. Harris' substitute, touching the salary of the Domestic Secretary and General Agent, be re-considered.

The vote being then taken on the resolution, it was adopted, as follows :

Resolved, That the salary of the Domestic Secretary and General

ral Agent be \$500 per annum, and that when an agent or agents are found necessary, they be employed by the Committee.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Mead, it was

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to nominate a Secretary and General Agent for the Domestic Committee.

The Rev. Mr. Atkinson and Mr. Gardiner were appointed.

On motion of the Rev. Mr. Balch, his resolution touching the correspondence of Missionaries, was called up.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Anthon, it was laid on the table until the next meeting of the Board.

The Secretary, as chairman of the committee on vacancies, reported that the committee believed there were no vacancies at present existing in the Board.

On motion of the Rev. Mr. Balch, it was

Resolved, That this Board regard with undiminished confidence and interest, the project of establishing an Indian Diocese, and commend it again to the prayers and contributions of the Church.

The Rev. Mr. Atkinson, as chairman of the committee to nominate a Secretary and General Agent for the Domestic Committee, reported that they had agreed to nominate the Rev. N. S. Harris; whereupon Mr. Harris was appointed.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Mead, it was

Resolved That after uniting in suitable devotions, the Board adjourn.

The Board then united in singing the 104th hymn, and in prayer, offered by the Bishop of Delaware.

The Board adjourned *sine die*.

Attest,

P. VAN PELT,
Secretary.